

Board of Education Agenda Item

Item: _____ C. _____

Date: _____ May 24, 2006 _____

Topic: First Review of a Recommendation of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL) to Grant Continuing Accreditation to the Teacher Education Programs at Eastern Mennonite University, Marymount University, and Virginia Union University

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Origin:

_____ Topic presented for information only (no board action required)

X Board review required by
_____ State or federal law or regulation
X Board of Education regulation
_____ Other: _____

X Action requested at this meeting: Waive first review and approve ABTEL's recommendation for continuing accreditation.

_____ Action requested at future meeting: _____ (date)

Previous Review/Action:

X No previous board review/action

_____ Previous review/action
date _____
action _____

Background Information:

The Regulations Governing Approved Programs for Virginia Institutions of Higher Education require colleges and universities that offer programs for the preparation of professional educators to obtain continuing program approval from the Board of Education. In Virginia, the review and approval of programs is viewed as the shared responsibility of institutions of higher education, school divisions, and the Department of Education. Final approval rests with the Board of Education.

The regulations define the standards that must be met and the review options available for the accreditation of teacher education programs. The regulations provide three options for accreditation: 1) a state review process for which the teacher education program must meet the standards established by Board of Education regulations; 2) the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) process for which the teacher education program must meet the board's teaching area

requirements and the NCATE standards; or 3) the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) process for which the teacher education program must meet the board's teaching area requirements and the TEAC standards. In all three options, the institution hosts an on-site visit by a team of trained reviewers who develop a report of findings that is submitted to the Department of Education for review by the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL). After a review of the report of findings, the ABTEL makes a recommendation to the Board of Education for final action.

Summary of Major Elements:

During the spring and fall of 2005, Eastern Mennonite University, Marymount University, and Virginia Union University were reviewed using the NCATE option. At its April 24, 2006, meeting, ABTEL recommended that the Board of Education grant full accreditation to teacher preparation programs at Eastern Mennonite University, Marymount University, and Virginia Union University. Letters from the president of the NCATE supporting continuing accreditation of the institutions are included in attachment #1. Below are summaries of the review team reports for the three institutions.

Eastern Mennonite University

The review team found that the six standards prescribed in the NCATE 2000 Standards were met:

Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions

Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation

Standard 3: Field Experiences and Clinical Practice

Standard 4: Diversity

Standard 5: Faculty Qualifications, Performance, and Development

Standard 6: Unit Governance and Resources.

At its March 2006 meeting, the Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) of the NCATE reviewed the findings of the Board of Examiners and determined that the teacher preparation program at Eastern Mennonite University met the NCATE standards for continuing accreditation.

2003-2004 Praxis I: Reading, Writing, Mathematics Assessments

Eastern Mennonite University	PPST READING	CBT READING	COMPUTERIZED PPST READING	PPST WRITING	CBT WRITING	COMPUTERIZED PPST WRITING	PPST MATHEMATICS	CBT MATHEMATICS	COMPUTERIZED PPST MATHEMATICS
Number Taking Assessment	35	1	11	34	1	12	36	1	10
Number Passing Assessment	30	0	9	27	1	9	35	1	8
Institutional Pass Rate	86%	0%	82%	79%	100%	75%	97%	100%	80%

2003-2004 Praxis II Assessments

Eastern Mennonite University	Number of Students	Test Area	Number Passing	Pass Rate
	24	Elem. Content.	24	100%
	4	Eng Lang Lit.	4	100%
	2	Mathematics	2	100%
	3	Social Studies	3	100%
	3	Music	3	100%
	2	Spanish	2	100%
	1	Biology	1	100%
	1	Chemistry	1	100%

Marymount University

The review team found that the six standards in the NCATE 2000 Standards were met:

Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions

Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation

Standard 3: Field Experiences and Clinical Practice

Standard 4: Diversity

Standard 5: Faculty Qualifications, Performance, and Development

Standard 6: Unit Governance and Resources.

At its March 2006 meeting, the Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) of the NCATE reviewed the findings of the Board of Examiners and determined that the teacher preparation program at Marymount University met the NCATE standards for continuing accreditation.

2003-2004 Praxis I: Reading, Writing, Mathematics Assessments

Marymount University	PPST READING	CBT READING	COMPUTERIZED PPST READING	PPST WRITING	CBT WRITING	COMPUTERIZED PPST WRITING	PPST MATHEMATICS	CBT MATHEMATICS	COMPUTERIZED PPST MATHEMATICS
Number Taking Assessment	28	10	49	28	10	49	27	11	49
Number Passing Assessment	24	10	42	24	10	42	24	10	42
Institutional Pass Rate	86%	100%	86%	86%	100%	86%	89%	91%	86%

2003-2004 Praxis II Assessments

Marymount University	Number of Students	Test Area	Number Passing	Pass Rate
	61	Elem. Content.	61	100%
	3	Eng. Language Lit	3	100%
	1	Social Studies	1	100%
	2	Art Content	2	100%
	2	Biology Content	2	100%
	1	Chemistry	1	100%
	1	Biology	1	100%

Virginia Union University

The review team found that six of the standards prescribed in the NCATE 2000 Standards were met:

Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions

Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation

Standard 3: Field Experiences and Clinical Practice

Standard 4: Diversity

Standard 5: Faculty Qualifications, Performance, and Development

Standard 6: Unit Governance and Resources.

At its March 2006 meeting, the Unit Accreditation Board (UAB) of the NCATE reviewed the findings of the Board of Examiners and determined that the teacher preparation program at Virginia Union University met the NCATE standards for continuing accreditation.

2003-2004 Praxis I: Reading, Writing, Mathematics Assessments

Virginia Union University	PPST READING	CBT READING	COMPUTERIZED PPST READING	PPST WRITING	CBT WRITING	COMPUTERIZED PPST WRITING	PPST MATHEMATICS	CBT MATHEMATICS	COMPUTERIZED PPST MATHEMATICS
Number Taking Assessment		1	4	0	1	4	0	1	4
Number Passing Assessment		1	4	0	1	4	0	1	4
Institutional Pass Rate		100%	100%	--	100%	100%	--	100%	100%

2003-2004 Praxis II Assessments

Virginia Union University	Number of Candidates	Test Area	Number Passing	Pass Rate
	4	Elementary: Content Knowledge	4	100%
	1	Business Education	1	100%

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends that the Board of Education waive first review and approve ABTEL's recommendation to grant continuing accreditation to the teacher education programs at Eastern Mennonite University, Marymount University, and Virginia Union University.

Impact on Resources:

Expenses incurred during on-site review of teacher education programs are funded by the hosting institution.

Timetable for Further Review/Action:

Review of teacher preparation programs in Virginia are conducted on a seven-year cycle. Programs that do not meet standards for continuing accreditation are reviewed as needed. Programs that meet standards for accreditation will be reviewed again on the established cycle.

ATTACHMENT #1

**Letters from the National Council for Accreditation of
Teacher Education (NCATE) Supporting Continuation of
Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs at
Eastern Mennonite University, Marymount University,
and Virginia Union University**